

CONNECTED

September 2003



MARIETTA OFFERS CITIZENS' GOVERNMENT ACADEMY



The City of Marietta will sponsor its sixth Marietta Citizens' Government Academy, beginning in early October. Beginning August 21, you can download the registration form.

The free 8-week Citizens' Government Academy program offers Marietta residents and business owners over age 18 an opportunity to learn more about the inner workings of city government in Marietta. The course provides an intensive, hands-on look at how city departments operate and how critical decisions are made that affect the quality of life in Marietta. Participants have opportunities to tour city facilities and hear directly from department managers, professional

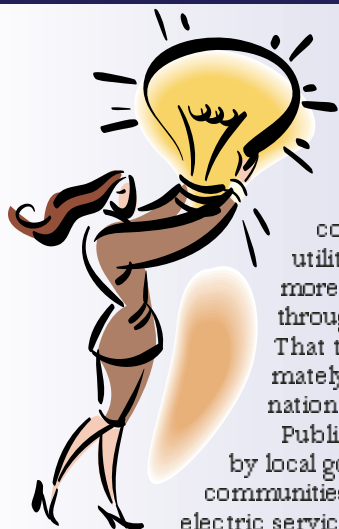
staff, and line workers, as well as elected officials.

Orientation will take place Tuesday, October 7, and class sessions will continue through early December. A reception and graduation will mark the end of the course at the Wednesday, December 3 Council Meeting.

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and you can download the registration form by logging on to www.city.marietta.ga.us. The academy is limited to 25 people. For more information about the program or to receive an application by mail, call Suzanne McClure at (770) 794-5506. The deadline for registering is Friday, September 26. ⚡



Celebrate the Advantages of Community-Owned Electric Utilities During Public Power Week



Marietta Power invites you to join communities across America in celebrating National Public Power week Oct. 5-11.

More than 2,000 community-owned electric utilities provide power to more than 40 million people throughout the United States. That total represents approximately 15 percent of the nation's electricity consumers.

Public power utilities operated by local governments provide communities with reliable, responsive electric service. Because communities

own these utilities, they remain directly accountable to the people they serve through local elected or appointed officials. In comparison, other electric utilities answer only to stockholders or private owners whose primary interest involves maximizing profits.

Public power has many distinct characteristics that benefit consumers and contribute to community progress. First and foremost, every citizen "owns" the utility. Other benefits include:

- Lower electricity rates.
- Equal or greater reliability.
- Efficient service — lowest cost consistent with reliability, community goals, and sound business practices.

continued on back

Marietta BLW Adds New Option to On-Line Payment System

To make it easier than ever for you to do business with Marietta Power, the Marietta Board of Lights and Water (BLW) recently began accepting utility payments made with American Express cards through its on-line payment system.

The system provides you with access to Marietta Power 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Marietta Power introduced the service to its existing customers in late June. In addition to paying bills, you can use the system to get a history of your power consumption for the last three years.

To take advantage of the new online payment service, you will need your Marietta Power account number included in your electric bill, as well as the temporary personal identification number (PIN) included in the letter you received announcing the service. Then, visit www.mariettapower.com on the Internet.

When the home page appears, just click on the "online services" link. A screen will then appear requesting your account number and temporary PIN number. After entering this information, a screen will appear requesting that you select a PIN number of your choice. You will receive an e-mail

confirming your new PIN number within a matter of minutes.

You can then log onto the system using your Marietta Power account number and the PIN number you selected. After logging on, you can request a chart showing your power consumption for the last three years. Or simply click the "Pay Now" button to pay your current electrical bill. The system will ask you to key in the credit card number that you wish to use to pay your bill. After entering this information, the system will show you a screen with a confirmation number acknowledging the receipt of your payment. This screen will also instruct you to print a copy of the screen, which will serve as your payment receipt.

"We hope Marietta Power customers will take advantage of this tremendous tool for paying bills and analyzing their power usage," said Sherri Rashad, Marietta Power's customer service manager. ⚡

"Right this way Joe, payment On-Line with BLW is a SNAP!"



Celebrate the Advantages of Community-Owned Electric Utilities During Public Power Week continued from front

- Emphasis on long-term community goals.
- Quick response from crews located in the community.
- Local employment.
- Local management and operations bring added community leadership for innovation and development.
- Recognized commitment to conservation, safety, and the environment.
- And much more.

For more information on the advantages of public power, please call Marietta Power at (770) 794-5150. ⚡

Calendar of Events

Through December 14

How Dare You Dream: Images of African Americans In Advertising From The Joyce Eubanks McGlory Collection
Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art
Call 770-528-1444 for information

September 20

Fall Gardening – What to do now
Backacher Garden
Look at gardens, listen to a variety of lectures, and learn the answers to your questions
Call 770-528-4070 for information

September 25

Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series
Glover Park
Marietta
Call 770-794-5601 for information.

October 1- November 9

Stones In His Pockets
Theatre in the Square
Call 770-422-8369 for information

October 4-5

Harvest Square Arts & Crafts Festival
Marietta Square
Call 770-794-5601 for information

October 18-19

The Adventures of Mary Poppins and Swan Lake act II
Presented by
The Georgia Ballet
Cobb County Civic Center
Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Call 770-425-0258 for information

October 25

Halloween Happenings
Glover Park
Call 770-794-5601 for information

October 31

Fall Festival Of Fun
Jim Miller Park
Call 770-528-8875 for information